



State of New Hampshire
WATER WELL BOARD



Roger B. Skillings, C.W.D. – P.I., *Water Well Contractor*
David R. Hunt, *Water Well Contractor*
Stephen R. Smith, *Pump Installer*
Richard P. Schofield, P.G., *Staff*

Steven Garside, *Technical Driller*
Rene Pelletier, P.G., *Dept. of Environmental Services*
Frederick H. Chormann, Jr., P.G., *State Geologist*
Steve Guercia, *Certified Operator, Public Member*

NH WATER WELL BOARD MINUTES

April 5, 2012

A meeting of the New Hampshire Water Well Board ("Board") was held on April 5, 2012, at 9:00 AM, in the Department of Environmental Services Building rooms 112, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord NH, 03302.

Present were: Roger Skillings, Chairman
Board Members: Stephen Smith, Rick Chormann, David Hunt, and Steven Garside
NH DES Staff: Richard Schofield and Genevieve Al-Egaily

Chairman Skillings brought the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Garside, the Board voted to accept the Minutes of the December 16, 2011 meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Hunt and seconded by Mr. Chormann, the Board voted to accept the Minutes of the March 7, 2012 meeting.

Request for Exemption

Wright-Pierce

The Board considered the request from Wright-Pierce on behalf of the City of Dover for an exemption to the rules for decommissioning a gravel well. A new well was to be drilled near the well that was to be decommissioned so the Membership felt the use of filter sand and a bentonite seal, as requested by Wright-Pierce, would be acceptable.

Upon motion by Mr. Garside and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board voted to approve the exemption.

Licensing

License Applicants

The Board was presented with and reviewed the license applications from Mr. Martin, Mr. Proctor, and Mr. DeLaBruere.

The Board questioned Mr. Martin, who was applying for a dug well license, about his experience with constructing wells.

Upon motion by Mr. Hunt and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board voted to allow Mr. Martin to sit for the exam.

Mr. Proctor held a license while working for Boart Longyear Co. but was now working for Maher Services Inc. who did not hold an active drilling license. The Board considered Mr. Proctor's application to become the qualified individual for Maher Services.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Hunt, the Board voted to approve a license for Maher Services with Mr. Proctor as the qualified individual.

The Board considered the application of Mr. DeLaBuere who was applying for a pump installer's license. The Board tabled the discussion until Mr. Schofield could check if Gosselin Water Wells Inc. currently held an active pump installer's license.

Administrative Rules

Mr. Schofield informed the Board that they had filed and received the fiscal impact statement for Individual Water Well Contractor and Pump Installers We 301.03. The rule had been reviewed by the DES rules attorney and the title and some of the language had been changed to clarify its intent. The impact to the state's general fund was found to be an indeterminate. The Board was presented with a schedule of the steps that would be involved in moving forward. Licensees will be notified of the proposed changes and a Public Hearing would be held on May 15th.

Other Business

Mr. Skillings noted that he had attended the General Training Program of the Attorney General presented on March 30 in the DES auditorium for Boards, Councils and Commissions.

The Board discussed the training.

Licensing

Database

The Board discussed how to distinguish an individual license number from that of a business and decided to use the letter "W" standing for water well industry for individual licenses.

Mr. Guercia entered the meeting at 10:00 AM
A recap of the discussion was given to Mr. Guercia.

Upon motion by Mr. Garside and seconded by Mr. Chormann, the Board voted to use the letter "W" before an individual license number.

Break at 10:20 AM.
Reconvene at 10:34 AM

Mr. Chormann was not present.

Licensing

License Applicants

This matter was previously tabled earlier in the meeting. The Board was informed that currently Gosselin Water Wells Inc. did not have a qualified pump installer. The qualified individual had retired.

Upon motion by Mr. Garside and seconded by Mr. Hunt, by a majority vote with one member abstaining, the Board voted to allow Mr. DeLaBuere to sit for the pump installer's exam.

Mr. Chormann returned to the meeting at 10:37 AM.

Database

The Board discussed some minor changes to the pump installer's license certificate which would clarify the types of work they were licensed to perform. The Board also discussed some minor changes that would be made to the license certificates and wallet cards for individuals and businesses if individual licensing was adopted.

Annual Reporting Update

The Board discussed reporting compliance. They noted that based on the number of wells reported business for the industry was down approximately 20 percent in 2011 compared to 2010. The Board decided that a letter should be sent to all contractors, who reported 40 percent or fewer wells than they had in the previous year, requesting that they make sure all wells had been reported. The contractor would be given 30 days to submit a written statement as to why the reports were not filed within the 90 days and to file any missing reports. The general consensus of the Board was that they would like DES to not take any disciplinary action if the contractor responded within 30 days. This would not apply in situations where there was ongoing disciplinary action. Upon further discussion the Board decided to apply the Board's rules We 801.03 for any reports submitted beyond the 90 day filing period.

Mr. Schofield noted that when reports are mailed to the Water Well Board at the DES address "Attention Rick Schofield" should be written on the envelope.

Break at 11:30 PM.

Reconvene at 12:01 PM

New Business

Geothermal Wells

Mr. Schofield stated that he had received a call from a licensee in regard to issues with open loop geothermal wells. The problems involved were not having an engineer on site when residential geothermal wells are constructed and that the current pump tests may not be long enough or accurate enough for this type of system. This can cause return lines to cascade water, oxidation

can occur, and the water chemistry can be changed. He also stated that he had received calls from home owners who felt their wells had gone dry as a result of their neighbor's geothermal system.

The Board discussed issues with open loop geothermal wells and if they should implement rules related to geothermal wells and pump tests conducted on those systems. To determine if any action needed to be taken by the Board to protect public health, the Board requested that Mr. Roy be invited to the next meeting to discuss his initial findings related to an investigation he was conducting on any changes that may occur in the water chemistry of dual use geothermal wells.

Living Water International - Request Licensee List

Mr. Schofield stated that the Board had received a request from Living Water International a 501 C (3) nonprofit for a list of all licensed well drillers. Living Water International is looking for volunteers to provide training / drilling in third world countries.

The Board requested that a list of the licensed water well contractors be sent to Living Water International.

Mr. Chormann left the meeting

Other

The Board was informed that the New Hampshire Water Works Association would be holding training for pump installers in the DES auditorium on May 24, 2012 from 5:00 - 7:00 PM at a cost of \$30 per person. Registration will begin at 4:15 PM. Mr. Guercia will be the instructor and the topics will include: drinking water chemistry, New Hampshire water chemistry, New Hampshire's drinking water contaminants, primary and secondary drinking water standards, field testing equipment, treatment options, when to call an expert, and precautions to take not to contaminate when removing or installing a pump. The training will qualify as two hours of continuing education for the pump installers.

Old Business

Other

Mr. Schofield told the Board that he and Mr. Smith had met to go over the general exam. They had made some changes but the changes were in a draft format so they would be meeting again.

Other

Mr. Schofield informed the Board that Maine was mandating training relating to drilling within the shore land protection area for all well drillers. New Hampshire DES has a fact sheet related to shore land protection titled Best Management Practices for Protection of Surface Water Quality During Well Drilling Operations.

Other

Mr. Schofield suggested the Board work with the Subsurface Bureau to insure that the protective well radius be kept on lot to protect the well's water quality.

Upon motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Guercia, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rene Pelletier", written over a horizontal line.

Rene Pelletier
Water Well Board Secretary

